

In the Claims

Please rewrite the indicated claims to read as follows:

B<sup>1</sup> 1. A method for inhibiting the biological activity of transforming growth factor  $\beta$  on predamaged neurons, said method comprising treating said predamaged neurons with a compound inhibiting the biological activity of TGF- $\beta$ .

Please cancel claims 2-4 and 9-10.

Please add the following new claims:

B<sup>2</sup> 14. The method of claim 1, wherein said compound inhibiting the biological activity of TGF- $\beta$  is selected from the group consisting of (1) an antibody to TGF- $\beta$ , (2) an antagonist to TGF- $\beta$ , and (3) a compound capable of altering TGF- $\beta$ .

15. The method of claim 14 wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of TGF- $\beta$  inhibitors, compounds having the binding site of a TGF- $\beta$  receptor, and TGF- $\beta$  RII/Fc chimeric protein.

16. The method of claim 14 wherein said treatment also includes a second compound for disintegrating blood clots.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein said second compound is selected from the group consisting of urokinase, thrombin and tissue plasminogen activator.

18. The method of claim 14, wherein said compound is administered intravenously, orally or intracerebrally.

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